

**TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE**



FISCAL NOTE

HB 1205 - SB 1207

March 31, 2009

SUMMARY OF BILL: Requires the Water Quality Control Board (WQCB) to make a final decision on certain appeals and render an order within 90 days. If such decision is not rendered within the required time frame, it shall be considered a refusal to hear the petition. If the appeal is determined to be frivolous, the applicant may be awarded fees and expenses incurred as a result of the appeal.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

**Increase State Expenditures - \$4,700/One-Time
\$95,500/Recurring**

Assumptions:

- The Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC) will require one additional attorney to meet the time frame for rendering decisions that is required by the bill. This will result in a recurring increase in state expenditures of \$90,200 (\$58,700 salary, \$20,000 benefits, \$11,500 for travel, phones, printing, office landscaping, office supplies, telephone, network connection, and PC replacement fund costs). Additionally, there will be a one-time increase in state expenditures of \$4,700 for a computer and office space.
- The WQCB meets approximately 20 times per year depending on its caseload. Annual expenditures are approximately \$15,000. Therefore, the cost per meeting is approximately \$750. It is assumed that the board will meet at least seven more times per year resulting in a recurring increase in state expenditures of \$5,300 ($\$750 \times 7 = \$5,250$).

CERTIFICATION:

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "James W. White". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial "J" and "W".

James W. White, Executive Director

/cce